

SEA TO SAND

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE HI-LO DESERT & GCSASC | VOLUME 20 | ISSUE 2 | MARCH/APRIL 2022

SAFETY AND REGULATORY ISSUE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

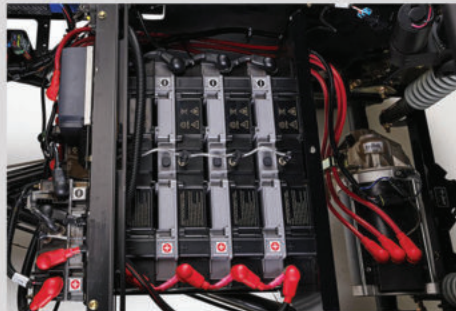
- *From the Field*
- *Assistant Superintendent Profile*
- *Safety and Regulatory Resources*

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Contents

- 4 Chapter Board of Directors
- 4 Advertiser Index
- 5 Executive Director's Report
- 6 From the Field
- 8 2022 Hi-Lo and GCSASC Events
- 9 "Where's Zena?"
- 12 Assistant Superintendent Profile on Derick Mara
- 16 Protecting Yourself from Breathing Pesticides
- 18 Heat Safety Tips
- 20 Worker Safety in Wildfire Regions
- 22 Ergonomics
- 24 GCSASC Annual Sponsors
- 26 Hi-Lo Desert GCSA Annual Sponsors
- 28 Protecting Workers Exposed to Wildfire Smoke
- 30 Safety & Regulator Resources



Connerly • 5



Jensen • 6



Zena • 9



COVER: *Tustin Ranch Golf Club*

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ADVERTISER INDEX

Alliance Turf Products	10
AG Sod Farms	21
Agri Turf	11
AquaTechnex	13
BASF	10
Bayer	27
Brandt	31
Channing Benjamin Photography	26
GCSAA	7
Gowan USA Turf and Ornamental	15
Grasspoint USA	21
Harrell's	17
High Tech Irrigation	23
Nufam	35
Nutrien Solutions	35
Pureseed	34
PW Gillibrand Co., Inc.	25
SiteOne	14
Stotz/John Deere	32
Superior Tree Care	34
Syngenta	33
Target Specialty Products	31
TCF Bank	15
TLC Materials	16
Turf Star	2
West Coast Sand & Gravel	19
West Coast Turf	15
Wilbur-Ellis	11

Executive Director's Report

By Marc Connerly, Executive Director, GCSASC and Hi-Lo Desert GCSA



While the business of golf continues to hum along at record levels, the legislative, regulatory and economic climate in California remains fraught with perils and potential impediments.

By now, you're likely aware that AB 672, proposing to incentivize local municipalities to convert their golf course stock to housing, was defeated in late January when the bill stalled in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Unfortunately, there was little time to rejoice in the victory, as just three weeks after the defeat of AB 672, Cristina Garcia introduced AB 1910 with virtually the same language.

As of this writing, the new bill has unsurprisingly passed the Assembly Housing & Community Development Committee, and awaits a hearing date in the Assembly Local Government Committee, where the chances of defeating the bill would appear to be better than in Housing.

In addition to AB 1910, the industry will be closely watching AB 2146, which proposes to ban the use of Neonicotinoids. GCSAA has taken a position of opposition unless amended to allow the use of Neonicotinoids by professionally licensed certified applicators. GCSAA's Jeff Jensen is actively monitoring the bill and advocating for the requested amendments.

Also at the state level, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) is proposing to ban combustion engine forklifts, including hybrid-electric solutions, only allowing battery-powered and hydrogen fuel cell forklifts. The measure is part of the state's decarbonization efforts, and is still in the very early stages of the rulemaking process, so we will continue to monitor closely and weigh in at the appropriate times in the process.

At the local level, although not part of GCSASC's territory, it bears mentioning that the City of San Francisco has introduced a plan to ban the use of gas-powered landscaping equipment under 25 hp on City owned property effective January 1, 2024, and on private property within the City effective January 1, 2026. Even though San Francisco is not a part of GCSASC's service area, it's worth monitoring the progress of that proposal, as other major cities in the state are very likely to follow San Francisco's lead.

All of these land mines exist amidst worsening drought conditions and rampant inflation diminishing the disposable income of consumers.

Let's enjoy the good times while they're here, but remain mindful of these many challenges conspiring to burst golf's bubble.

Marc Connerly

From The Field

By Jeff Jensen • GCSAA Field Staff • Southwest Region



As we move into Spring, it's time to get in your donations to support Rounds 4 Research. The 2022 auction is scheduled for April 25 – May 1.

Rounds 4 Research allows participating chapters to raise funds for turfgrass research, education, and advocacy. California courses can donate a twosome or foursome and 80 percent of the funds raised in the auction go back to the chapter in which the rounds were solicited. The remaining 20 percent goes to cover the costs of the auction. It only takes a few minutes to donate online, and courses can stipulate blackout dates and times as needed. Donations can be made at <https://www.gcsaa.org/foundation/rounds-4-research>.

Additional information including marketing materials is also available on the webpage to help you promote the auction to golfers. For those wishing to view the auction and who is participating, please visit <https://www.biddingforgood.com/auction/auctionhome.action?vhost=rounds4research>.

GCSAA and your local chapter appreciates your support of the program and if you need assistance in making your donations, please don't hesitate to contact Mischia Wright at mwright@gcsaa.org.

In other news, the Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards (ELGA) applications are due April 29. Presented by GCSAA and Golf Digest in partnership with Syngenta, the ELGA's recognize golf course superintendents and golf courses around the world for their commitment to environmental stewardship.

There are four ELGA Awards available including the Natural Resource Conservation Award, Healthy Land Stewardship Award, Communication and Outreach Award and the Innovative Conservation Award.

There will be one winner and two runners-up recognized for each award. GCSAA members may apply to one, two, three or all four awards in a single year. However, an individual can only win one award per year.

California superintendents have dominated the awards over the years including 2021 when Gary Ingram, CGCS (Metropolitan Golf Links), Wayne Mills (La Cumbre Country Club), Jay Neunsinger (Boundary Oak Golf Course, currently Richmond Country Club) and Scott Bower (Martis Camp Club) claimed awards in the various divisions.

For more information or to apply, visit <https://www.gcsaa.org/about-gcsaa/awards/environmental-leaders-in-golf-awards>.

Lastly, GCSAA is taking names for national committee volunteers. While most of the committee positions for 2022 are filled up, we will continue to accept names for a few open spots as well as for 2023. It's a great opportunity to serve GCSAA and there's a committee for every interest. For more information visit <https://www.gcsaa.org/committee-volunteer>.

Thank you for your continued support and if I can be of assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at jjensen@gcsaa.org and follow me on [Twitter @GCSAA_SW](#) for industry updates.

Jeff

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Hi-Lo Desert Events

Tuesday, May 24
Spring Meeting
Toscana Country Club



GCSASC Events

Thursday, April 28
Spring Meeting
Tustin Ranch Golf Club

Monday, July 18
S & R Tournament (TENTATIVE)
The Huntington Club

Monday, November 14
GCSASC Annual Meeting
Red Hill Country Club

Monday, December 12
Duff Shaw Classic Tournament
North Ranch Country Club





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(You will find the answer on page 34)

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Assistant Superintendent PROFILE

By Derick Mara

It's always great to showcase some of the up-and-coming talent in our industry. Southern California has some of the richest history in golf, with great courses and hardworking crews that keep them in exceptional condition. For this issue, we interviewed Derick Mara of Shady Canyon Golf Club in Irvine, California. Derick is one of two Assistant Superintendent liaisons on the GCSASC Board of Directors.

What made you decide to get into golf maintenance?

- In high school, I was on the golf team and developed a passion for the game. My high school had an externship program for seniors. This program allowed seniors to spend the afternoon working in the field in which they were going to major. I spent every afternoon with the Superintendent at Gardner Municipal Golf Course, Bill Frank, and gained serious interest in the industry.

What is your proudest accomplishment in the industry?

- Seeing the people you have mentored move up through the industry and have success.

Who would you consider your most influential mentor in the industry?

- Two guys come to mind, both my current boss John Nachreiner, and my former boss, Kevin Banks.

Where did you grow up?

- Gardner, Massachusetts

Your best Nicknames?

- In high school my nickname was Mayor Mara. I always liked planning things to get friends together and was voted most school spirit my senior year.

If you could drive any vehicle, what would it be?

- 1986 Lamborghini LM002



Derick Mara

Curly fries or regular, and why?

- Regular fries. If curly fries aren't cooked correctly, they can be soggy in spots. That's a risk I'm not willing to take.

What is the funniest thing you have ever seen on a golf course?

- At TPC Boston one year I saw Patrick Reed take 3 shots to get out of a bunker. Something about watching professional golfers look like an amateur brings a smile to my face. Golf is HARD.

What is one thing that most people don't know about you?

- I have never drank a soda in my life.

What was your lowest score playing golf, and where?

- 71 - Edgartown Golf Club

What is your favorite manual labor job on the golf course and why?

- Laying sod, its rewarding to see the finished product after an area needed replacement.

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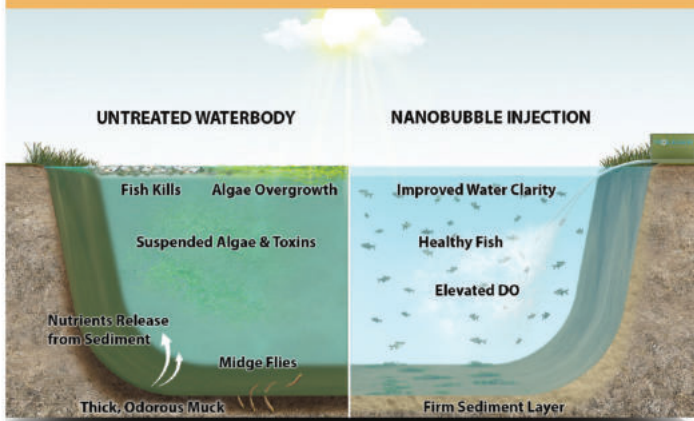
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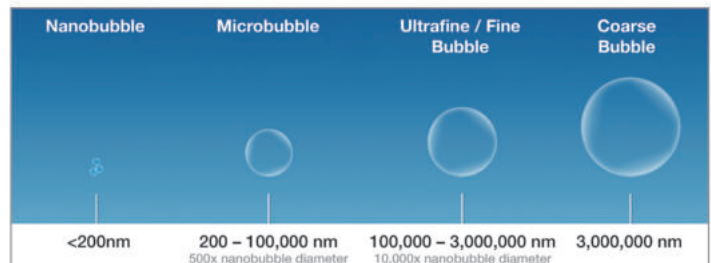
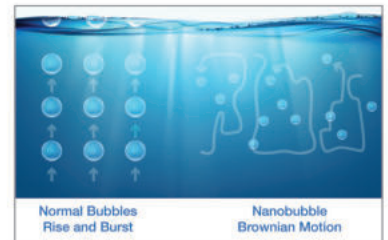
Pain Point(s)	Moleaer Solution
Algae growth in lakes and ponds	Nanobubbles directly break down algae cells and reduce algae toxins thereby reducing the need for addition of chemicals
Odor from the lake	Nanobubbles enable beneficial bacteria to outcompete algae for available food
Water is not clear or attractive	Increase water clarity and quality

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Notes: EPA Establishment Number 94231-CA-1

Continued from Page 12 - Assistant Superintendent Profile

Greatest piece of advice anyone has given you?

- Grudges seldom hurt anyone except the one bearing them.

If you had to survive on a deserted island for 1 year, aside from food and water, what 5 items would you bring with you to occupy your time?

- Golf Clubs (bunker game would be dialed in), dumbbells, snorkel gear, mountain bike, boogie board

Favorite Beer?

- Hazy IPA

If you had your choice, what would you do in retirement?

- Travel the world golfing, hiking, and exploring all the diverse cultures that the world has to offer.

Favorite sports teams?

- All Boston Sports teams, Patriots, Celtics, Red Sox, Bruins.

What's your favorite type of grass to manage as a putting surface and why?

- Bentgrass is the only grass I have managed on a putting surface, but I also find it to be the best. I find it to be the smoothest putting surface from a playability standpoint.

If you could have lunch with anyone, past or present, who would it be and why?

- Tom Brady because he is my all-time favorite athlete.

What is your favorite golf maintenance related quote?

- If you don't have time to do it right, when will you have time to do it again?



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Protecting Yourself From Breathing Pesticides in Agricultural Settings

Pesticide Safety Information, A No. 5 (ca.gov)

If you might be exposed to harmful dusts, droplets, or vapors, a respirator can help protect you. A respirator is a form of personal protective equipment (PPE). You must wear a respirator anytime the pesticide label, California's rules, or your employer requires one. If the label tells you to "avoid breathing dust, vapor, or mist" and you cannot do this, you may also need to wear a respirator. Your employer must know what type of respirator is required for your work. Your employer must give you, at no cost, a respirator when it is needed and you must wear it.

CAN ANYONE USE A RESPIRATOR?

Breathing through a respirator can be very hard for some people. People with certain problems, such as high blood pressure, heart disease, or lung disease, may not be able to wear a respirator safely. If you

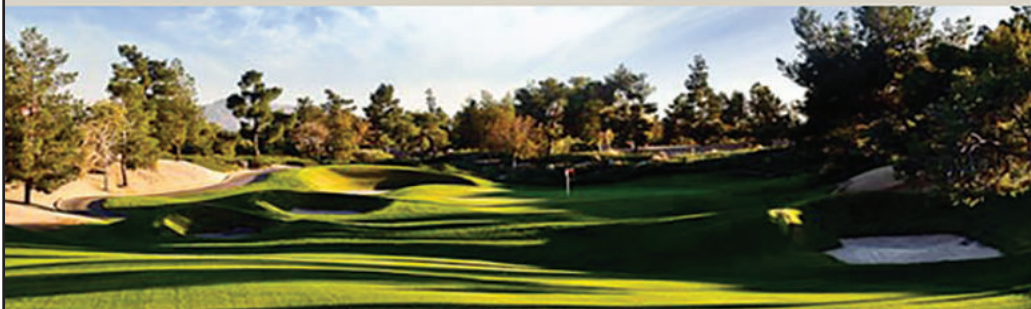
are handling a pesticide and are supposed to use a respirator, your employer must get a doctor's permission before you are allowed to use it. The doctor will review a questionnaire that your employer will have you fill out. The doctor may also examine you. Your employer must tell the doctor what type of respirator you will use, your worksite activities, and what the air temperatures might be while you are wearing the respirator. The doctor must give a report to your employer (and give you a copy) about whether or not you can wear a respirator safely before you use one. Your employer must follow the doctor's written orders. You do not need to be seen by the doctor again unless your health changes or the doctor thinks you need additional checkups. If this happens, notify your employer that you may need to be seen by the doctor again.

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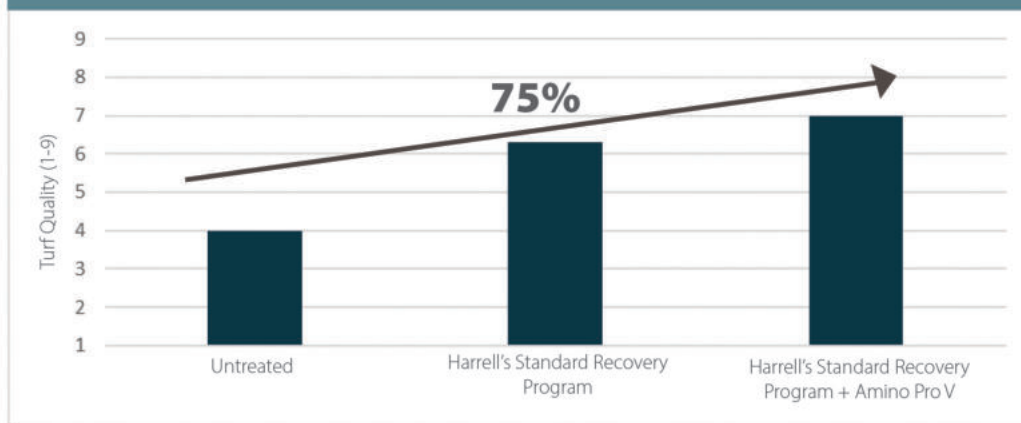
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October 30, 2018
Ohio State University



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Heat Safety Tips



Heat Illness Prevention

Water. Rest. Shade.

California employers are required to take these four steps to prevent heat illness:

1. Training

Train all employees and supervisors about heat illness prevention.

2. Water

Provide enough fresh water so that each employee can drink at least 1 quart per hour, or four 8 ounce glasses, of water per hour, and *encourage them to do so*.

3. Shade

Provide access to shade and encourage employees to take a cool-down rest in the shade for at least 5 minutes. *They should not wait until they feel sick to cool down*.

4. Planning

Develop and implement written procedures for complying with the Cal/OSHA Heat Illness Prevention Standard.

The above four points followed by: For more resources visit the following link:
<https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/HeatIllnessInfo.html>

The heat illness contact information: HIPNetwork@dir.ca.gov



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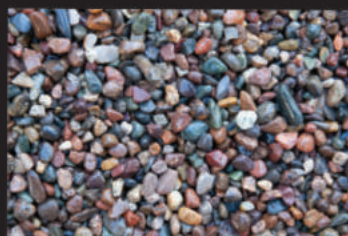


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Worker Safety in Wildfire Regions

Link: *Worker Health and Safety in Wildfire Regions (ca.gov)*

<https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/Worker-Health-and-Safety-in-Wildfire-Regions.html>

Wildfire smoke and cleanup presents hazards that employers and workers in affected regions must understand. Smoke from wildfires contains chemicals, gases and fine particles that can harm health. Hazards continue even after fires have been extinguished and cleanup work begins. Proper protective equipment and training is required for worker safety in wildfire regions.

Power outages can also present electrical and other hazards for workers. Proper installation and use of generators can prevent electrocution hazards. Workers must also be aware of the potential of electrocution or being injured by moving parts of machinery and other equipment when power is restored. Workers can also face health hazards from power outages in unventilated areas when ventilation systems are not working.

Cal/OSHA has a regulation ([section 5141.1](#)) to protect employees exposed to wildfire smoke. The regulation requires the following:

- Identification of harmful exposures
- Communication
- Training and instruction
- Appendix B to Section 5141.1
- Control of harmful exposures
- Specific particulate sampling requirements if an employer opts to monitor employee exposure with a direct reading instrument

Cal/OSHA encourages employers and workers to review the following pages with information and resources on protecting workers exposed to smoke from wildfires and worker safety during cleanup:

1. FAQs about Wildfire Hazards www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/wildfire/wildfire-faq.html
2. Protecting Outdoor Workers Exposed to Smoke from Wildfires www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/wildfire/Worker-Protection-from-Wildfire-Smoke.html
3. Protecting Indoor Workplaces from Wildfire Smoke with Building Ventilation Systems and Other Methods www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/wildfire/Indoor-Protection-from-Wildfire-Smoke.html
4. Worker Safety and Health During Fire Cleanup www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/wildfire/Worker-Health-and-Safety-During-Fire-Cleanup.html
5. Safety and Health of Workers Rebuilding after Wildfires www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/wildfire/Rebuilding-after-Wildfires.html

For more resources, please visit: [Worker Health and Safety in Wildfire Regions \(ca.gov\)](#).



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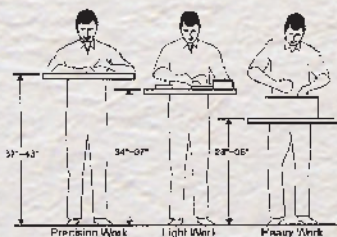
Create a better match between the worker, the work they perform, and the equipment they use by building your own ergonomic plan.

General

California is the first state in the nation to have a legally enforceable repetitive motion injury standard, which can be found in Title 8, California Code of Regulations (CCRs), Section 5110. The standard became effective July 3, 1997.

Whether your employees rotate tasks, stretch, or avoid awkward postures, these resources can be helpful in most job functions.

Standing Workstation Guidelines: www.safeatworkca.com/safety-articles/standing-workstation-guidelines
Warm-up and Stretch: www.safeatworkca.com/safety-articles/stretching



Landscaping

Landscapers perform a wide variety of tasks from mowing lawns and pruning bushes to weeding, planting, tree trimming, and irrigation work. Many of these tasks require awkward postures, forceful exertions, repeated movements, and exposures to heat, cold, whole body vibration and hand-arm vibration—all risk factors for developing musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs).

Go to the following link to get resources on landscaping ergonomics: www.safeatworkca.com/safety-articles/landscaping-ergonomics

Agriculture

Backaches and pain in the shoulders, arms, and hands are among the most common workplace injury symptoms agriculture workers face. Here are some solutions to help you reduce these risks to your employees.

Job Rotation:

- Analyze which jobs are the most repetitive or demanding and which jobs are the least repetitive or demanding and rotate between them. Or, look to make changes to the most repetitive or demanding jobs as risks are identified.
- Ensure that the rotation plan relieves stress on muscle groups most often used in a task or job. Develop a rotation cycle that has lighter tasks following heavier tasks to give muscles and other soft tissues a chance to recover. For example, alternate tasks that require forward flexion or lifting with tasks that require standing or walking.
- Look at improving job tasks through process and design changes before implementing rotation. The goal is to reduce reaching, lifting, and forward flexion from jobs and consider if the job or task can benefit or be better performed at a seated workstation.
- Teach employees to self-rotate. If not a safety hazard, they may be able to switch sides of the machinery, move to the opposite side of a conveyor, or change hands periodically so that one side or one part of the body is not over-used. Change the mouse hand—move the mouse to the left hand if it is normally used with the right hand and vice versa—is often suggested for heavy computer usage.

Other Agriculture Resources:

Rest Break Benefits: www.safeatworkca.com/safety-articles/rest-break-benefits/

Kneeling: www.safeatworkca.com/safety-articles/kneeling

For a comprehensive guide on Ergonomic Resources that will benefit your staff, visit: www.safeatworkca.com/topic/ergonomics/



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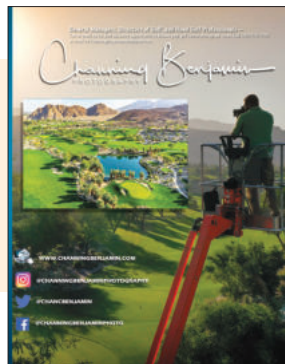
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Protecting Workers Exposed to Wildfire Smoke

Cal/OSHA's regulation T8CCR, [section 5141.1](#), Protection From Wildfire Smoke, addresses the hazards workers may be exposed to from the small particles in wildfire smoke, known as PM2.5. This fact sheet provides an overview, not all of the requirements of section 5141.1.

Which employers must comply with the standard?

Section 5141.1 applies to workplaces when there are two conditions in place:

1. The current Air Quality Index (AQI) for airborne particulate matter 2.5 micrometers or smaller (PM2.5) is 151 or greater.
2. The employer should reasonably anticipate that employees could be exposed to wildfire smoke.

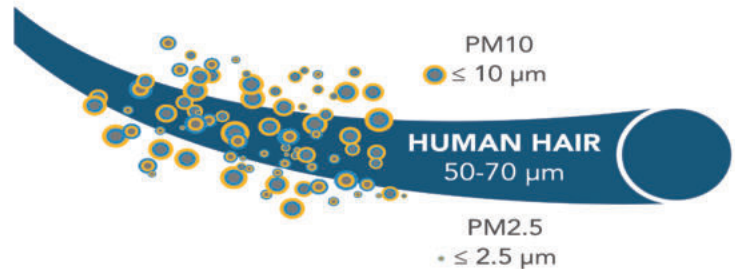
What is "current AQI"?

The Current AQI is the method used by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to report air quality on a real-time basis. Current AQI is also referred to as the "NowCast," and represents data collected over time periods of varying length in order to reflect present conditions as accurately as possible.

Which employers are exempt from the standard?

Employers with workplaces and operations in any of the following conditions are exempt from section 5141.1:

- Enclosed buildings or structures in which the air is filtered by a mechanical ventilation system and the employer ensures that windows, doors, bays and other openings are kept closed except when it is necessary to open doors to enter or exit.
- Enclosed vehicles in which the air is filtered by a cabin air filter and the employer ensures that windows, doors and other openings are kept closed except when it is necessary to open doors to enter or exit.
- The employer demonstrates that the concentration of PM2.5 in the air does not exceed a concentration that corresponds to a current AQI of 151 or greater by measuring PM2.5 levels at the worksite in accordance with [Appendix A](#).
- Employees are exposed to a current AQI for PM2.5 of 151 or greater for a total of one hour or less during a shift.
- Firefighters engaged in wildland firefighting.



What are the hazards?

Wildfire smoke is composed of harmful chemicals and tiny particles suspended in the air. The small particulates (PM2.5) can present a significant health hazard for workers exposed to the smoke, even when they are not working near a wildfire. These particles can irritate the lungs and cause serious or even fatal health effects, such as:

- Reduced lung function
- Bronchitis
- Worsening of asthma
- Heart failure

What do employers have to do?

- **Identify harmful exposures:** determine employee exposure to PM2.5 at the start of each shift and periodically thereafter, as needed.
- **Communicate with employees:** implement a system for communicating wildfire smoke hazards in a language and manner readily understandable by all employees. This includes encouraging employees to inform their employer of worsening air quality and adverse symptoms that might be related to wildfire smoke.
- **Train and instruct employees:** provide effective training—in a language and manner readily understandable by the employees—that includes at least the information contained in [Appendix B](#) of section 5141.1.
- **Control harmful exposures to employees:** reduce workers' exposure to wildfire smoke in the following ways:
 1. **Engineering Controls:** Where feasible, provide engineering controls such as an enclosed location with filtered air so that employee exposure to PM2.5 is less than a current AQI of 151, or to the extent feasible.
 2. **Administrative Controls:** If engineering controls are not feasible or adequate, use practicable administrative controls such as relocate to another

Workers Exposed to Wildfire Smoke Hazards

What are the hazards?

Wildfire smoke can be a hazard for workers even when they are not close to a fire. The smoke contains very fine particles in the air, also called particulate matter (PM). The major health concerns are the smallest particles called “PM2.5” because they are 2.5 microns in diameter or smaller. That is much smaller than the diameter of a human hair. PM2.5 can irritate the lungs and cause serious or even fatal health effects, such as:

- Reduced lung function
- Bronchitis
- Worsening of asthma
- Heart failure

Cal/OSHA has a regulation, [section 5141.1](#), Protection From Wildfire Smoke, that requires employers to protect workers from unhealthy levels of PM2.5. This fact sheet provides an overview, not all the details of the section 5141.1 requirements.

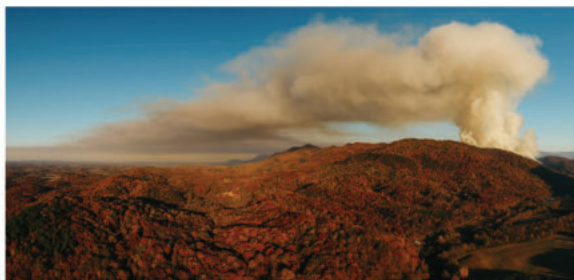
When does an employer have to comply with section 5141.1?

Two conditions must be in place:

1. The current Air Quality Index (AQI) for PM2.5 for the location where workers are working is 151 or greater. The current AQI is the method used by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to report air quality.
2. The employer should reasonably anticipate that workers could be exposed to wildfire smoke.

Employers with workplaces and operations in any of the following conditions do not have to implement section 5141.1:

- Enclosed buildings or structures in which the air is filtered by a mechanical ventilation system, and windows, doors, bays and other openings are kept closed except when doors are opened to enter or exit.
- Enclosed vehicles in which the air is filtered by a cabin air filter and the employer ensures that windows, doors and other openings are kept closed except when doors are opened to enter or exit.
- The employer measures the concentration of PM2.5 in the air and shows that the current AQI is not 151 or higher.
- Workers exposed to a current AQI for PM2.5 of 151 or



greater for a total of one hour or less during a shift.

- Firefighters engaged in wildland firefighting.

What does an employer have to do if section 5141.1 applies to their workplace?

- **Identify harmful exposures:** Determine what exposures to PM2.5 their workers have at the start of each shift and then periodically, as needed.
- **Communicate with workers:** Inform workers of wildfire smoke hazards so all workers understand. This includes encouraging workers to inform their employer—without fear of retaliation—of worsening air quality and symptoms that might be related to wildfire smoke. The employer must inform workers about:
 - The current AQI for PM2.5.
 - Protective measures available to them to reduce their wildfire smoke exposures.
- **Train and instruct workers:** Provide training to workers so that they understand at least the following information regarding wildfire smoke:
 - The health effects.
 - The right to obtain medical treatment without fear of retaliation.
 - How workers can find out the current AQI for PM2.5.
 - The requirements of the Cal/OSHA wildfire smoke standard.
 - The employer’s two-way communication system.
 - The employer’s methods to protect workers from wildfire smoke.
 - The importance, limitations, and benefits of using a respirator.

Additional Safety and Regulatory Resources

CAL/OSHA Publications www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/puborder.asp#IIPP

State Fund's IIPP BuilderSM www.safeworkca.com/iipp-builder

The Cal/OSHA Hazard Communication Regulation
www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh_publications/hazcom.pdf

Guide to Developing Your Workplace Injury & Illness Prevention Program
www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh_publications/iipp.pdf

Safety Resource Library
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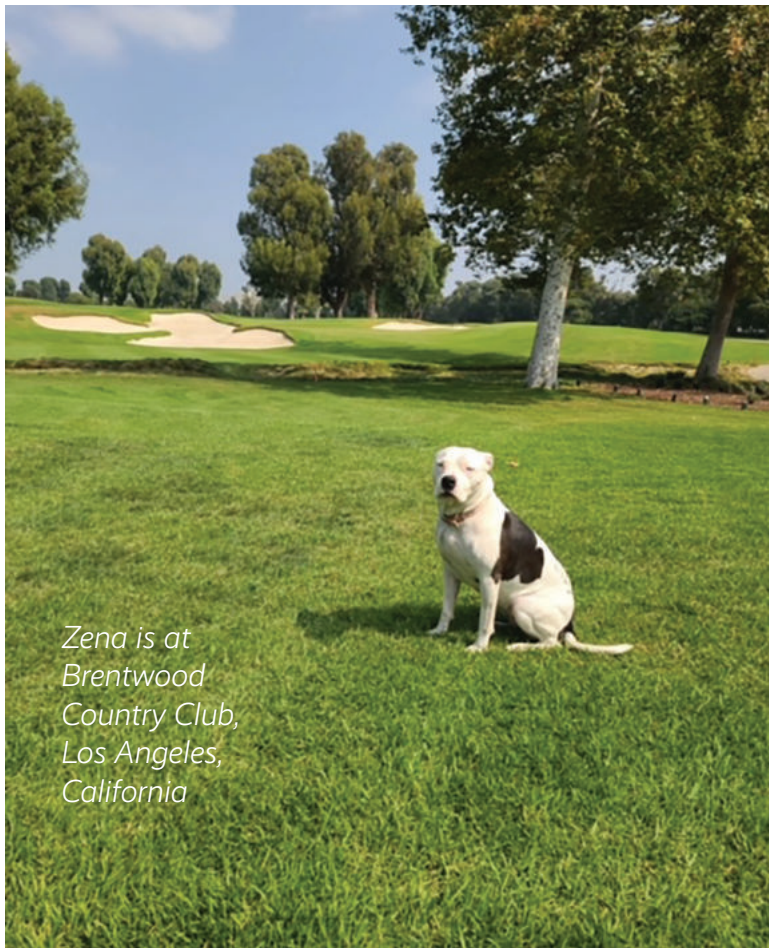
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